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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1794.

Horse Guards, September 21.

A Dispatch, of which the following is a Copy, was this Morning received from His Royal Highness the Duke of York by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Head Quarters, at Grave,

September 17, 1794.

SIR,

IN my last Letter of the 13th Instant I acquainted you, for His Majesty's Information, with a Report, which I had just received, of the Enemy's having made a Movement towards Oosterwych. It appeared, however, by the Account of the next Day, that this Corps had fallen back in the Night. The same Accounts, confirmed by the Reports of Deserters, assured us, that a very considerable Detachment, amounting to Fifteen Thousand Men, had been made towards Maestricht.

On Sunday Afternoon a sudden Attack, in which it appeared that the Enemy were in great Force, was made upon all my Posts of the Right; and that of Boxtel, which was the most advanced, was forced, with considerable Loss to the Hesse Darmstadt Troops, who occupied it.

As the Line of my Out-Posts upon the Dommel could not be maintained, while the Enemy were in Possession of Boxtel, it appeared necessary to regain it; at the same Time the Degree of Resistance which the Enemy would make, would serve to ascertain whether this Attack was supported by their Army, with a View to a general Attack, or was merely an Affair of Out-Posts.

I therefore ordered Lieutenant-General Abercromby to march with the Reserve during the Night, with Directions to reconnoitre the Post at Day-Light, and to act as he should judge best, from what he should discover of the Force of the Enemy.

Lieutenant-General Abercromby having advanced as directed, found the Enemy in such Strength as left little Room to doubt of the Proximity of their Army, and he accordingly retired, but in such good Order as prevented the Enemy from making any Impression, although they followed him for some Distance.

About this Time I received private Information, upon which I could rely, and which was confirmed by the Observation of my Patroles, and the Reports of Deserters, that the Enemy had been reinforced by